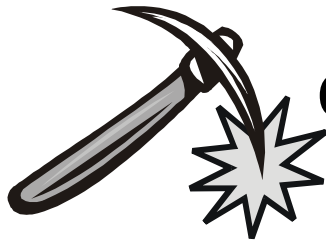


Lake Mead

Environmental Education

National Recreation Area
National Park Service



Grade 4 - Field Program

"Mining the Past"

Theme	Although the Katherine Mine and mill are no longer active, they represent a time of great hope and anticipation for those seeking a better life.
Objectives	Students will describe why the Katherine Mine and mine were established. Students will describe some of the harsh living and working conditions for miners. Students will describe two jobs that miners performed at the site.
Vocabulary	<u>cultural resource</u> - any physical evidence of historic events <u>extraction</u> - the removal of ore from a mine <u>mill</u> - a place where gold and silver are separated from ore <u>mine</u> - an opening or excavation in the earth for the purpose of taking out minerals <u>ore</u> - rocks containing minerals of economic value <u>tramp miner</u> - a miner who went to different mines as work was available
Background Information	People have mined in Arizona for 3,000 years. Since 1858 gold and silver mines sprang up in the region of the Lower Colorado River. This made the Katherine Mine a "late bloomer". Men came to the region to strike it rich. The reality was hard backbreaking labor. Some miners were colorful characters, like Louis L'Amour, who became a famous writer of western books. Like all mines, Katherine Mine opened and closed, depending on the price of gold that would prove its profitability. The mine's most productive time was between 1900 and 1940. Soon after World War II began, gold and silver mines were closed all over the country. Katherine Mine never reopened. The mine brought people to the area. Some stayed and some of their descendants still live in the Tri-State area, continuing a legacy of building a life for themselves and their families.
Before the Field Trip	In preparation for your field trip, a ranger will be conducting a program in your classroom. Topics such as safety at the park, the mission of the National Park Service and expectations while on the field trip will be presented at that time.
After the Field Trip Activity	Using the notecards provided during the field trip, have students write their own "postcards" to someone describing their experience at the Katherine mine site. Send the postcards back to us and we'll stamp each one with the Katherine Landing rubber stamp, then we'll return them all back to the class.



Teachers! - check out our web site <http://www.nps.gov/lame>